

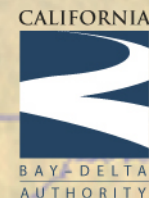
Long Term Management Strategy for Dredged Material in the Delta (Delta LTMS)

Pinole Shoal Management Study

August 23, 2006



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**



LTMS History

- **2004 – Army Corps of Engineers begins exploring ways to improve dredged material management in the Delta**
- **2005 – Five state and federal agencies begin developing Delta LTMS Process**
 - Modeled on San Francisco Bay LTMS
 - Stakeholder interviews to identify issues of concern in the Delta
- **2006 – Agencies refine Process Framework and Charter**
 - Describes agency and stakeholder involvement
 - Stakeholder meetings begin

Delta LTMS Purpose

Coordinate dredging planning and dredged material management in ways that protect and enhance the Delta environment and water quality:

- 1. Coordinate dredging to maintain and improve channel function, levee stabilization, and ecosystem restoration, and promote the beneficial use of dredged material.**
- 2. Work cooperatively to develop a management plan**
 - Based on sound science**
 - Protective of the ecosystem, water supply, and water quality**
- 3. Consider regulatory approval process improvements so that project approvals are coordinated, efficient, timely, and protective of Delta resources.**

Critical Issues Facing the LTMS

- Dredging
- Ecosystem
- Levees
- Navigation
- Recreation
- Water Supply
- Water Quality



LTMS Goals

- **Manage dredging activities to:**
 - **Maintain and stabilize Delta levees**
 - **Protect and enhance water quality, water supply and ecosystem function**
 - **Support and maintain Delta channel functions for navigation, flood control, water conveyance, and recreation**

LTMS Objectives

- **Interagency coordination and cooperation**
- **Surface and ground water quality**
- **Fish species and habitat protection**
- **Beneficial use of dredged material**
- **Delta ecosystem restoration support**
- **Cost-effective dredging activities**

LTMS Activities

Delta LTMS includes two major activities:

- Sediment Management Plan**
 - Beneficial Use**
 - Disposal Site Selection**
- Coordinated Permitting Process**
 - General Orders**
 - Testing Protocols**

LTMS Phases

- **Process Initiation – through Fall 2006**
 - Solicit participation of key agencies, stakeholders, and interest groups
- **Process Chartering – through Fall 2006**
 - Obtain participant commitments
 - Refine goals and objectives
 - Frame study issues and questions
 - Develop study plans, Delta LTMS process plan, and schedule milestones
- **Sediment Management Plan – 2006 to 2009**
 - Develop draft and final Sediment Management Plan
- **Regulatory Process Improvements – Ongoing**

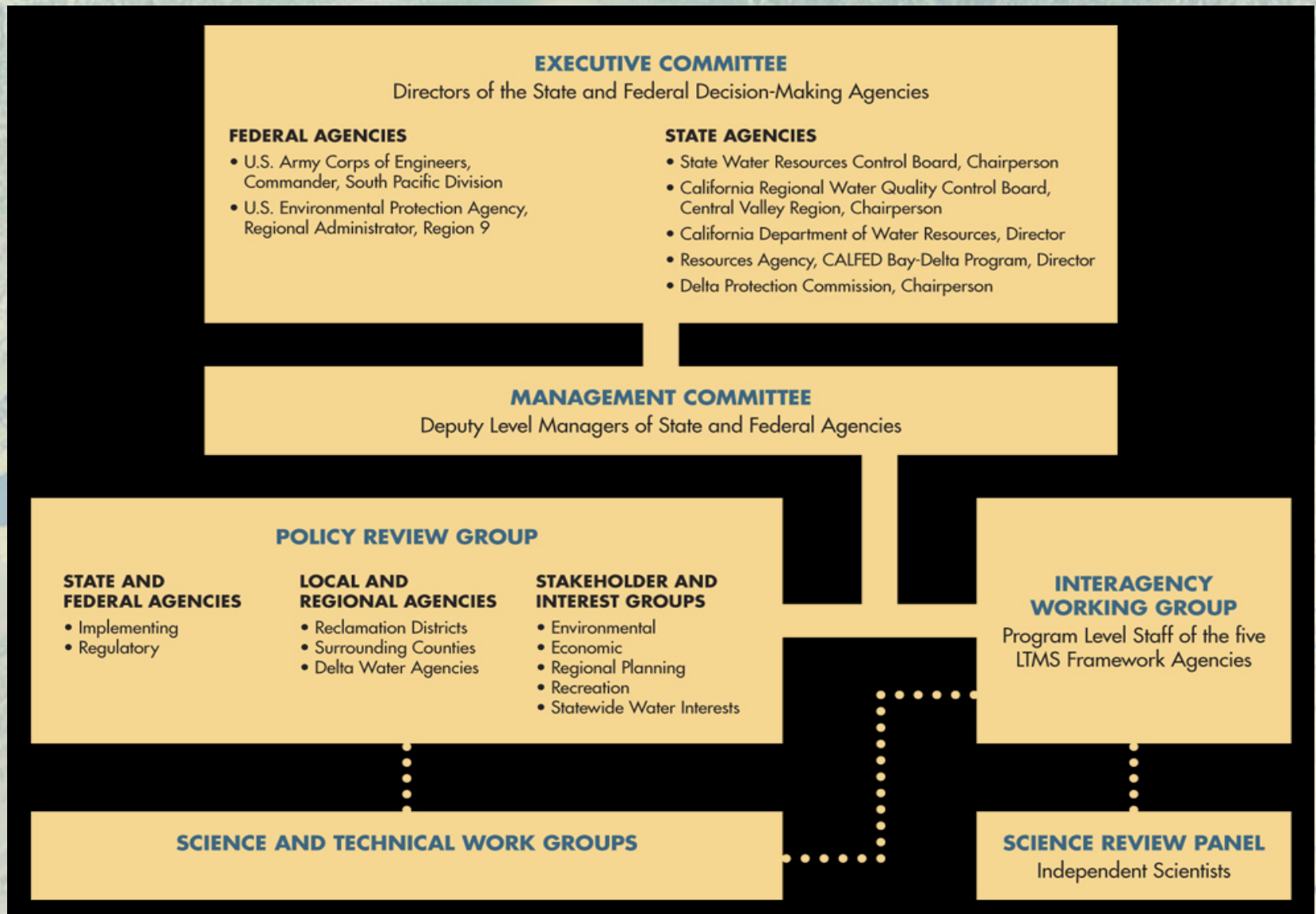
LTMS Structure

- **Five agencies have been instrumental in developing the Delta LTMS Framework:**
 - **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**
 - **U.S. EPA**
 - **California Department of Water Resources**
 - **California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region**
 - **Resources Agency, CALFED Bay-Delta Program**

Authorities and Decision Making

- **Dredging**
 - Corps
 - USEPA
 - California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region
 - State Lands Commission
- **Water Quality**
 - State Water Resources Control Board
 - USEPA
 - California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region
- **Natural Resources**
 - FWS
 - NMFS
 - DFG
- **Levees**
 - Corps
 - DWR
 - Reclamation Board
 - Individual Reclamation Districts
- **Land Use**
 - Delta Protection Commission
 - Delta Counties and Cities

LTMS Structure



Stakeholder Participation

- **Participation in Policy Review Group**
- **Public Comment at Executive Committee Meetings**
- **Public Comment at Management Committee Meetings**
- **Review of Science Recommendations**

Delta LTMS Work Plan

- Work Plan Development
 - Develop a process to address concerns in the form of studies, primarily technical
 - Based on meetings with Delta interests to identify concerns and means to address them
- Work Plan Elements
 - Scopes of Work for potential technical studies
 - Sediment Management Plan development process
 - Public involvement and coordination
 - NEPA/CEQA compliance process
 - Study schedule & cost estimate
 - Sediment database for dredging and placement issues
 - Same structure (contractor) as S.F. Bay database

Potential Study Issues / Topics

- **Regulatory Process**
 - Document the regulatory approval process for dredging activities and beneficial use of dredged material and identify opportunities for improved coordination.
- **Dredging Activities and Quantities**
 - Identify and quantify planned dredging activities for navigation, flood control, water conveyance, recreation, and other Delta functions.
- **Beneficial Use and Placement Capacity**
 - Identify and quantify sediment beneficial use needs, sediment sources, and on-going long-term placement capacity.

Potential Study Issues / Topics

- **Testing Protocols**
 - Identify and conduct research on evaluation of dredged material testing protocols for beneficial use of dredged sediment in the Delta.
- **Sediment Quality**
 - Develop and implement research on sediment quality in likely areas for dredging.
- **Emergency Procedures**
 - Identify existing responsibilities and procedures for response to emergency conditions in the Delta (e.g., levee failure or flooding).

Executive Committee Kick-Off

- **First Executive Committee Meeting**
 - Charter signing
 - Opportunity for stakeholder participation
 - Targeting late October date

Next PRG Meeting

- **Purpose to discuss:**
 - Study Work Plan
 - Upcoming Executive Committee Kick-Off (late October)
- **Potential dates:**
 - Thursday, September 28
 - Wednesday, October 4
 - Thursday, October 5

Key Contacts

Al Paniccia, Project Manager

(415) 977-8468

Al.Paniccia@usace.army.mil

William Brostoff, Ph.D., Technical Studies
Manager

(415) 977-8604

William.N.Brostoff@usace.army.mil

An aerial photograph of a river network. The main river flows from the left towards the center, then branches out into a complex, dendritic pattern of smaller tributaries that spread across the landscape. The terrain is a mix of green and brownish-yellow, suggesting different vegetation or land use. In the background, there are dark, forested hills. The text "Extra Slides" is centered over the middle of the image in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Extra Slides

Executive Committee

Participant Characteristics

- **Agency decision making authority on policy and regulatory issues**

Purpose

- **Provide overall program direction**
- **Set policy direction**
- **Provide general study oversight**

Meets

- **Generally annually, or as needed to provide policy direction**

Management Committee

Participant Characteristics

- Deputy-level managers with good understanding of agency policy and programs

Purpose

- Provide oversight of the Interagency Working Group and the Policy Review Group
- Provide review of:
 - Policy recommendations
 - Study plans
 - Budget proposals
- Provide the Executive Committee with study recommendations

Meets

- Generally quarterly

Interagency Working Group

Participant Characteristics

- Program level staff from the five LTMS agencies

Purpose

- Provide day-to-day program management
- Coordinate study plans and activities with Policy Review Group
- Identify study issues
- Direct Science & Technical Work Groups (including Science Review Panel) and study resources
- Prepare and approve study reports
- Develop and evaluate management and policy options

Meets

- Monthly

Policy Review Group

Participant Characteristics

- **Stakeholders, interest groups and other agencies with an interest in Delta dredging, environmental, and economic activities**

Purpose

- **In conjunction with Interagency Working Group, identify, review and discuss**
 - **Critical Delta sediment issues**
 - **Connectivity between critical issues and technical studies**
 - **Regulatory approach for Delta dredging**
- **Provide public comment at Executive and Management Committee meetings**

Meets

- **Monthly or as needed to provide input into the management process**

Science Review Panel

Participant Characteristics

- Independent scientists with expertise in specific issues related to the Delta

Purpose

- Provide an independent science review process for Delta LTMS studies
- Reports directly to Interagency Working Group

Meets

- As required by the specific study need

Science and Technical Work Groups

Participant Characteristics

- Interested participants from any agency or interest group

Purpose

- With the direction and approval of the Management Committee, technical work groups will:
 - Identify study needs (ex. Testing Protocols, Permitting Process)
 - Develop study scopes and work plans
 - Identify resources
 - Review results and conclusions

Meets

- As required by the specific study need

Related Programs

- **Dredging**
- **Levees**
- **Navigation**
- **Water Quality**
- **Ecosystem Restoration**
- **Land Use**
- **Multi-purpose Programs**